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J.D.
4-30-01

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: Ulrich BITTROFF et al.
Serial No.: To Be Assigned
International
Application No.: PCT/EP00/04071
Filed: Herewith
For: METHOD FOR ESTABLISHING A CONNECTION IN A
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

BOX PCT
Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 9, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants request that the following Amendments be made in the above-identified matter prior to examination thereof:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Before paragraph [0001], please insert the heading --BACKGROUND--.

Please amend paragraph [0002] as follows:

a1
[0002] A request for a call typically involves the disclosure of one's own telephone number. In the case of newspaper advertisements, a way out presents itself via a box number, or code number, which, however, prevents an immediate contact of the interested party with the advertiser, resulting in delays. Moreover, the interested party then has to express himself/herself in writing. However, if the telephone number is indicated in a newspaper advertisement, then it is generally possible to identify the owner of the telephone number via electronic data bases which allow a number search, resulting in the possibility of abuse. Thus, for instance, a public